EDITOR COOPER'S APPEAL.

Strong Argument For McKinley From the Nestor of the Colored Press.

How any intelligent American citizen, black or white, can oppose the administration of President McKinley or his election is beyond my understanding. Men of good memories remember what a condition of affairs existed in the country at the close of President Cleveland's last administration. The closed factories and mills, the scarcity of work and of money and the general panic everywhere must have made an indelible impression on the minds of all intelligent men.

When President McKinley was elected nearly four years ago, he found the country in the throes of a panic of hard times and with no credit at home or abroad. What he has done under his administration is a matter of history. He has given the country a clean, businesslike administration. He has met every obligation and every duty. Where factories have been closed he has opened them. Where money has been scarce he has made it plentiful, and whatever was bad his administration has made it good. In fact, so grand and so successful has been the policy of his administration that it appeals to the intelligent, sober judgment of all loyal American citizens. Its platform is a model of courageous statement of issues—clear, concise and forcible—and places the national honor as the shibboleth around which all may rally with the full vigor and enthusiasm of a happy and contented people.

An expanding population, an expanding volume of trade and an expanding capacity for development have demanded an expansion of area for American activities. The fortunes of war and circumstances have placed under our fostering care the direction of millions of human beings into the golden light of a higher civilization. Christianity and commerce under the gallant stars and stripes travel hand in hand, and our flag has never been unfurled over any land without conferring individual benefits upon the natives and establishing loftier principles for the emulation of mankind everywhere. Abroad the Republican party stands for the logical expansion of an ambitious and progressive nation, broader markets for our products and more liberal opportunities for the employment of our God given energies. At home the Republican party stands for an honest ballot and a fair count, for equality of citizenship, for the untrammeled development of manhood and the general education of the masses. Cannot such a reliable party, voicing such exalted principles, with the greatest warrant invite the suffrage of all right thinking and patriotic people?

The Republican standard bearers, McKinley and Roosevelt, are typical Americans, and they at once idealize the polities of the party as set forth at Philadelphia and represent in their splendid careers the pregnant possibilities that lie in store for capable and characterful American manhood. Both are worthy of the high stations for which they have been so enthusiastically named and can be relied upon to carry out to the letter every pledge to which they stand committed.

William McKinley is a statesman. Under the severest scrutiny he measures well with the foremost leaders of national thought of any generation. Heading an administration beset by problems and responsibilities which fall to the lot of few executives, he has never misjudged a situation nor faltered in the discharge of what he considered to be his duty. To him more than to any other agency is due our great prosperity producing tariff system, our confidence inspiring money standard and respect compelling foreign policy. His wise generalship in the triumphant war with Spain, his steady hand in securing an advantageous treaty, his unyielding support of American authority in the Philippines, his liberal civil government in Hawaii, Porto Rico and Cuba, his prompt and able rescue of our legation at Peking and his true Christian spirit in refusing to be a party to the dismemberment of the Chinese empire, his earnest advocacy of arbitration as a means of adjusting labor troubles and fair pay for citizens regardless of race or color—all these and more stamp William McKinley as a faithful and reliable chieftain. They entitle him to the grateful consideration of the whole land and a re-election by popular acclaim.

The attitude of Mr. McKinley and Mr. Roosevelt on the negro question is being discussed in some quarters, but the outcome cannot be other than to their advantage and to the credit of the party. I invite an investigation of this matter, for it brings out wholesome truths that will set at rest any doubt as to the loyalty of the candidates toward the colored people. President McKinley's unequivocal denunciation of lynching in his inaugural and repeated in a later message effectually answers all who lay charge of lukewarmness at his door. These ringing utterances, coupled with his unprecedented recognition of the negro in official stations and the appointment of the flower of negro manhood in high army positions, emphasize his friendship beyond cavil and denote his appreciation of our importance as a political quantity. Under no previous administration have the colored people drawn anything like their present compensation per annum, fully $7,000,000.

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Less than 40 years ago every negro who is now picking flaws in this administration or his father or his grandfather was a slave, or, if free born, had no rights which white men were bound to respect.

THE AMERICAN NEGRO EXHIBIT.

(Continued from second page.)

line and I bade adieu to America, and upon the magnificent ocean "greyhound" the steamer "New York" left New York for the convocation of Nations at Paris. We all four went into French school, and the quantity and quality of French that we were soon speaking, to quote Dunbar, "was a caution." I do not know that we have improved the language, but we sometimes use some words that even a Frenchman can't understand. By the 15th of April, the date fixed for opening, the "Negro Exhibit" was not complete, but it was nevertheless "at home" to the world.

LOCATION AND SPACE.

Paris has been in the exposition business for some time. Over 30 years ago was the first, and since then have been two others before this. Two things the wise Frenchmen have learned—accessibility to the people and cheapness of entry. Thus, right in the very heart of Paris, hard by the Champs Elysee, the greatest boulevard of the world, and along the banks of the River Seine—the toy brook of French Kings—is collected the Universal Exposition of 1900. The Champ de Mars is down stream and is covered with buildings that in architectural decoration far surpass our Chicago World's Fair. Just opposite is the plot of ground called the "Trocadero," which contains dozens of buildings representing on one side the French colonies, and on the other side the colonies of other Nations. This is connected with Champ de Mars by a bridge, and the magnificent Eiffel Tower looks down from a distance twice as high as the Washington Monument. Up stream a half mile away is the plot of ground called the Esplanade des Invalides. Here is the group of buildings containing varied industries, and opposite are the two great palaces of beautiful paintings and sculpture. Across the river is the Alexander III. Bridge, which cost three million dollars. Connecting the Champ de Mars and Esplanade des Invalides is the "Street of Nations," where twenty Nations have put up private residences for their Governments, and on the opposite bank, in the very heart and center of the exposition, stands the

SOCIAL ECONOMY BUILDING.

Palace of Social Economy and Congresses. The building is two stories high, simple in construction and admirably lighted. The second story contains halls for congresses upon every subject common to thoughtful minds except religion, which the French, aware of their own agitation upon the subject, have left out. The ground floor contains exhibits in social economy from France, Germany, Russia, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Sweden, Bulgaria, Great Britain, Holland, Belgium and the United States. The exhibits of these Governments show the various forces at work for the betterment of men and women, and especially the various organizations which these people themselves are carrying on for their own betterment.

UNITED STATES EXHIBIT.

The United States Exhibit is considered the fullest of all. With a space only equal to the smallest countries, like Holland and Bulgaria, it has crowded into the space a varied collection that furnished great food for thought. The American Library Association occupies one corner and furnishes an interesting study of the libraries of the country. Next the League for Social Service has presented the work of the Young Men's Christian Association, factory employees' condition, and a miscellaneous study of great interest. The New York Charity Soicety has on exhibition some beautiful models of New York tenements, one of which is a reproduction of a complete block on the east side of New York. The total catalogue entries of exhibitors in this room, which is about 20 by 30 feet, is upward of 400. The collection and installation of this exhibit reflects great credit upon Dr. Edward D. Jones, University of Wisconsin. Nothing could be more appropriate than that the United States should include among these other forces a showing of the progress of its ex-slaves and their descendents. Marvelous as has been the progress in other lines, have any equaled the facts of Negro progress? About one-fourth of the space is devoted to the Negro Exhibit, and the most prominent part of the room, stretching the whole length of the vestibule, is a glass case containing the Hunster Models, and immediately in front on your right as you enter is the remainder of the exhibit.

AMERICAN NEGRO EXHIBIT.

If the reader will consider himself a visitor, stepping for the first time into the American Negro Exhibit, I will carry him through the collection. First, to the left, facing you, with arms in the attitude of speaking, is the statuette of Frederick Douglas. This statuette is a reproduction of the original, which stands in the principal square of Rochester, N. Y., and was executed by the same sculptor, Mr. Stanley M. Edwards. Adjoining is a case which holds 15 wing frames and altogether holds 33 charts 28 inches high and 22 inches wide. In this case, No. 1, are photographs of several educational institutions, viz., Fisk University, Howard University, Roger Williams University, Agricultural and Mechanical Colloge, Greensboro', N. C., Berea College, Tuskegee Institute and Claflin University. These photographs show buildings, grounds, classes at various kinds of work and miscellaneous views of school life. Upon top of this case rest four beautifully bound volumes containing the official patent sheets issued to nearly 400 Negro patentees. Underneath this case is a carved design belonging to case No. 3.

EXHIBIT CASE, NO. 2.

In Case No. 2 you see in front the teachers, two kindergarten classes and two other classes of the Haines Normal and Industrial Institute, Augusta, Ga. It represents a distinctive work by colored women, Miss Lucy Lancey being the founder and present principal. The wing frames in this case contain kindergarten work, sewing and dressmaking samples. There are also photographs of many Negro houses,

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